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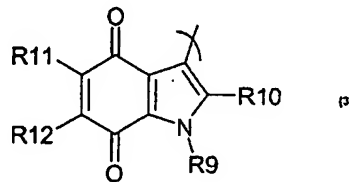
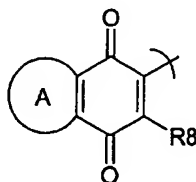
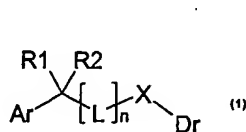
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(54) Title: BIOREDUCTIVELY-ACTIVATED PRODRUGS



(57) Abstract: The present invention relates to a compound of formula (1), or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein: Ar is a substituted aryl or heteroaryl group bearing at least one nitro or azido group or is a group of formula (2) or (3) wherein R<sub>1</sub>, and R<sub>2</sub>, which may be the same or different are independently optionally substituted alkyl, optionally substituted alkenyl, optionally substituted alkynyl, aryl, COR<sub>3</sub> or, together with the intervening carbon atom, form an optionally substituted heterocycloalkyl or carbocyclic ring; L is -OC(O)- or -OP(O)(OR<sub>6</sub>)-; n is 0 or 1; X is O, S, NR<sub>7</sub> or a single covalent bond; R<sub>3</sub> is OR<sub>4</sub> or NR<sub>4</sub>R<sub>5</sub>; R<sub>4</sub>, R<sub>5</sub>, R<sub>6</sub> and R<sub>7</sub> are each independently hydrogen or optionally substituted alkyl or, where R<sub>4</sub> is NR<sub>4</sub>R<sub>5</sub>, R<sub>4</sub> and R<sub>5</sub> can be joined to form, together with the intervening nitrogen atom, a heterocycloalkyl ring; R<sub>8</sub> is hydrogen, alkoxy or dialkylaminoalkyl; R<sub>9</sub> is optionally substituted alkyl; R<sub>10</sub> is hydrogen, alkyl, alkoxy or dialkylaminoalkyl; R<sub>11</sub> and R<sub>12</sub> are independently hydrogen, alkyl, alkoxy, thioalkoxy, amino, alkylamino, dialkylamino, morpholino, piperidino, piperazino or 1-aziridinyl; A is an optionally substituted aryl or heteroaryl ring; and Dr is a moiety such that DrXH represents a cytotoxic or cytostatic compound.